



Department of State

TELEGRAM

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AN: 0790442-0421

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ADS-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00  
PM-06 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 OODE-00 /072 W  
-----094426 271154Z /50

P R 271108Z SEP 79  
FM AMEMBASSY KABUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5817  
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA  
AMEMBASSY BEIJING  
AMEMBASSY DACCA  
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMEMBASSY TEHRAN  
CINCPAC

DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

REVIEWED BY          DATE           
REASON FOR EXEMPTION DATE           
AUTH.          REASON(S)           
CORSE EXISTING MARKINGS ☐  
EXEMPTIONS DELETABLE ☐  
DATE          BY         

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 7214

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

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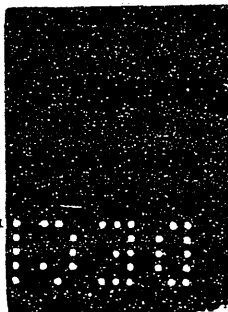
E.O. 12065: GDS 9/27/85 (I.LATIN, BRUCE A.) OR-M  
TAGS: PINR, PGOV, PINS, AF  
SUBJ: (C) CONDITION OF FORMER PRESIDENT TARAKI

1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT)
2. A GENERALLY WELL-INFORMED AFGHAN SOURCE TOLD THE EMBASSY ON SEPTEMBER 27 THAT FORMER PRESIDENT NOOR MOHAMMAD TARAKI IS STILL ALIVE, BUT PARALYZED.
3. COMMENT: TARAKI IS SLOWLY FADING FROM THE AFGHAN SCENE, LIKE THE CHESHIRE CAT IN "ALICE IN WONDERLAND." SINCE THE OFFICIAL POWER-TURNOVER ANNOUNCEMENT OF SEPTEMBER 16, HIS  
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NAME HAS NOT APPEARED IN THE AFGHAN MEDIA, WHICH ARE ALL

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GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED. ALTHOUGH PRESIDENT HAFIZULLAH AMIN NOW MAKES FREQUENT REFERENCE TO THE EXCESSES OF THE PRE-SEPTEMBER 16 PAST, HE HAS NOT ELECTED THUS FAR TO CRITICIZE TARAKI SPECIFICALLY. HE PROBABLY THINKS IT IS STILL TOO EARLY TO TACKLE HEAD-ON TARAKI'S RESIDUAL POPULARITY AND PRESTIGE; SINCE WHAT LITTLE THERE WAS OF TARAKI'S GREATLY EXCEEDED AMIN'S OWN PUBLIC STANDING. AMSTUTZ

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